

Dear Sir

Boston July 20th 1779

Altho' you require but a single
line in return, yet I will burden you
with many, notwithstanding the whole
matter herein contained might be com-
-pized within that restriction. You seem
to fancy that it is the determination of the
Enemy to carry on the Extremes of War
if so, how is it in our power to retaliate, by
destroying our own Cities and Villages, we
are not capable of carrying the war over
the Atlantic, therefore in that respect
they have the superior advantage, their
fleet commands our Coasts and thereby
accessible to their troops, we are wholly
expos'd and they in safety. This Metropolis
may be taken at any time with 3 ships of the
Line and 5,000 troops - and further more, the
half of the people with their coming - We have
just rec'd an Account from Gen Gates of the

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Reduction of a fort on the north river, but
the people know the credulous disposition of
the Gen. so well that they place no confidence
in any Account he may transmit hither

Our Fleet sailed three days since, they
are to touch at N Hampshire to receive troops,
to take under convey some more transports
and be joined by some Ships of War and then
proceed to the seat of opposition, their force
consists of 1 frigate 10 ships of 20 Guns & upward
16 Brigs & Sloops of 12 Guns & upward, Land
force uncertain. I believe to be about 2500.
I must quit one lawyer to have to do with
another I have a case depending at Court
and must attend — I had rather have to
do with the — than with a lawyer in their
way of business. Am with friendship and
respect Y^{rs} W^m Lewis

William Lewis

Letter from
Wm. W. Thompson.
Dated July 20th 1847.

Dwight Foster Esq.

Assistant Revoluty
Judge cc P. Providence
Mass.

Ms. Ch. F. 2.30

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